

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 102277  
ORIGIN EUR-12

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INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12  
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 102277

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, CY, TU

SUBJECT: CYPRIOT EMBOFF CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST,  
APRIL 19

REF: (A) NICOSIA 1031, (B) ANKARA 3016

1. CYPRIOT EMBOFF ANGELIDES (IN ABSENCE FROM WASHINGTON OF  
AMBASSADOR DIMITRIOU) CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST  
APRIL 19 TO FOLLOW UP ON FOREIGN MINISTER ROLANDIS' PROTEST  
REGARDING ALLEGED TURKISH VIOLATION OF CYPRIOT AIRSPACE  
AND PERCEIVED OBJECTIONABLE REMARKS OF PROFESSOR SOYSAL.  
ANGELIDES SAID THAT TWO AIRCRAFT HAD IN ALL BEEN INVOLVED  
IN SEVEN AIRSPACE VIOLATIONS AND DESCRIBED AREAS INVOLVED  
AS WEST OF NICOSIA AND NORTH OF YEROLAKKOS. HE ALSO  
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PAGE 02 STATE 102277

MENTIONED MILITARY HELICOPTER "VIOLATI4N" ONE MILE WEST OF  
DHEKELIA. OTHERWISE, ANGELIDES HAD FEW DETAILS TO ADD TO  
THOSE PROVIDED REF A. HE CHARACTERIZED OVERFLIGHTS AS AN  
ACT OF INTIMIDATION, ESPECIALLY INAPPROPRIATE ON EVE OF  
WALDHEIM VISIT TO CYPRUS, THAT WAS CONTRARY TO SECURITY  
COUNCIL RESOLUTION CALLING ON PARTIES TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT  
AND TO REFRAIN FROM EXACERBATING SITUATIION. WITH REGARD TO

SOYSAL STATEMENT (APPARENTLY MADE ON RETURN TO TURKEY FROM VIENNA), GOC WISHED TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT ANY "REGRETTABLE INCIDENTS" THAT OCCURRED WOULD BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE

THE TURKS AND OF ANY PARTY THAT ENCOURAGED THEM. GOC WOULD, MOREOVER, NEVER NEGOTIATE UNDER DURESS.

2. DRAWING ON KYPRIANOU'S PRESS CONFERENCE REMARKS (NICOSIA 1049), ANGELIDES PROCEEDED TO GIVE RATIONALE FOR GOC REJECTION OF TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS. IN BRIEF, THE BASIC TURKISH INTENT AS REFLECTED IN THESE PROPOSALS WAS TO CONSOLIDATE AND LEGALIZE THE SITUATION IN CYPRUS BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE INVASION. THE ENTIRE PHILOSOPHICAL AND CONCEPTUAL BASIS OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSAL, AIMING AS IT DID AT THE FORMATION OF A CONFEDERATION, WAS UNACCEPTABLE. WITH REGARD TO TERRITORY, THE TURKS WERE PREPARED ONLY TO CONCEDE THE BUFFER ZONE--WHICH WAS NOT THEIRS ANYWAY--AND TO RELINQUISH NO MORE THAN ONE PERCENT OF THE TERRITORY THEY ACTUALLY OCCUPIED. SOME OF THE PROPOSED READJUSTMENTS EVEN FAVORED THE TURKS FROM A MILITARY POINT OF VIEW. THE VAROSHA PROPOSAL, WHICH MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE TURKS INTEND TO KEEP THIS AREA UNDER THEIR CONTROL, WAS NO LESS THAN AN INSULT.

3. FOR THESE REASONS, ANGELIDES CONTINUED, THE GOC HAD COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT NO BASIS FOR RESUMING TALKS  
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PAGE 03 STATE 102277

EXISTED. THIS DECISION HAD BEEN TAKEN UNANIMOUSLY IN A JOINT SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS/NATIONAL COUNCIL THAT FOLLOWED IMMEDIATELY ON WALDHEIM'S BRIEFING OF KYPRIANOU. THE GREEK CYPRIOTS, ANGELIDES NOTED, WERE IN FULL AGREEMENT THAT NEGOTIATIONS REPRESENTED THE PATH TO A CYPRUS SOLUTION; YET IT WAS PLAIN THAT THE TURKS WANTED NEGOTIATIONS ONLY TO LEGALIZE THE STATUS QUO AND TO CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE FAVORABLE TO REPEAL OF THE ARMS EMBARGO. ANGELIDES URGED THAT THE U.S. TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO PERSUADE ECEVIT TO ASSUME A MORE RESPONSIBLE ATTITUDE AND TO REVISE THE BASIS OF THE TURKISH PROPOSALS. IF THE EMBARGO WERE TO BE LIFTED, THERE WOULD BE ABSOLUTELY NO INCENTIVE FOR THE TURKS TO BE FORTHCOMING.

4. VEST TOLD ANGELIDES THAT, ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, THE APRIL 18 TURKISH FLIGHTS IN THE VICINITY OF THE DEMARCATION LINE WERE PART OF AN ANNUAL EXERCISE, AND THAT SIMILAR FLIGHTS HAD APPARENTLY OCCURRED AT ABOUT THIS SAME TIME A YEAR AGO. THE FLIGHTS HAD BEEN NOTIFIED TO UNFICYP IN ADVANCE, AND HAD NOT CROSSED THE DEMARCATION LINE. VEST SAID THAT THE TIMING OF THESE FLIGHTS WAS PERHAPS INOPPORTUNE AND THAT WE COULD UNDERSTAND WHY THE GOC FELT IT

NECESSARY TO BE CAUTIOUS; HOWEVER, THIS DID NOT SEEM TO US TO BE A CASE OF DELIBERATE INTIMIDATION. VEST SAID WE WERE NOT CLEAR ON EXACTLY WHAT SOYSAL HAD SAID.

5. VEST SAID THAT WE WOULD TAKE NOTE OF ANGELIDES' REMARKS ON THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS. HE STRESSED THAT THE U.S. WAS DEEPLY INTERESTED IN THE CYPRUS PROBLEM AND IN ASSISTING THE SECRETARY GENERAL IN HIS EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT A SETTLEMENT. IT WAS OUR SINCERE HOPE THAT THE PRESENT IMPASSE COULD INDEED BE BROKEN AND FURTHER DETERIORATION IN THE SITUATION IN CYPRUS ARRESTED. HE EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THAT IF ANY PROGRESS WAS TO BE MADE IT WOULD HAVE TO BE THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN NOT WITH PRECONCEIVED DECISIONS IN MIND BUT  
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PAGE 04 STATE 102277

RATHER AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE EACH OTHERS' VIEWS AND TO MOVE BEYOND WHAT WERE NECESSARILY LIMITED STARTING POSITIONS INTO MORE BROAD-RANGING DISCUSSIONS. VEST ALSO CAUTIONED ANGELIDES AGAINST VIEWING U.S.-TURKISH RELATIONS SOLELY IN TERMS OF THE ARMS EMBARGO. ECEVIT, WE FELT SURE, WOULD MAKE HIS DECISIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE WHOLE RELATIONSHIP.

6. DEPTOFF (EUR/SE DIRECTOR) NOTED THAT WALDHEIM HAD, BEFORE LEAVING CYPRUS, AGAIN CHARACTERIZED THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS AS "SUBSTANTIVE AND COMPREHENSIVE" AND HAD DECLARED HIS INTENTION TO STUDY THE MATTER FURTHER BEFORE REACHING ANY DECISIONS ON NEXT STEPS. THE U.S. HAD CAREFULLY REFRAINED FROM MAKING ANY JUDGMENT ON THE PROPOSALS AND FROM GIVING ANY IMPRESSION OF DEFENDING THEM. IT WAS OUR BELIEF THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S TASK WOULD BE EASED IF FURTHER PUBLIC DEBATE AND CONTROVERSY WERE AVOIDED.

7. ANGELIDES ARGUED THAT UNDER CURRENT CONDITIONS EVEN INITIATING NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE USELESS. THERE WAS NO COMMON DENOMINATOR BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES, A SITUATION BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE OBVIOUS TURKISH AIM TO DIVIDE CYPRUS RATHER THAN TO RE-ESTABLISH AN INDEPENDENT NATION. ANGELIDES ALSO CRITICIZED THE U.S. ROLE WITH RESPECT TO CYPRUS, ASSERTING THAT WE WERE NOT PREPARED TO DEVOTE ENOUGH ATTENTION TO THE PROBLEM AND THAT WE HAD MISSED AN OPPORTUNITY TO PERSUADE THE TURKS TO MAKE BASIC CONCEPTUAL CONCESSIONS IN THEIR PROPOSALS. VEST ACKNOWLEDGED THAT WE AND THE GOC MAY HAVE OUR DIFFERENCES OVER HOW TO APPROACH THE PROBLEM AND WHAT TACTICS TO EMPLOY. HOWEVER, WE COULD NOT UNDER ANY STRETCH OF THE IMAGINATION BE FAULTED FOR LACK OF CONCERN FOR CYPRUS. WE WERE COMMITTED TO DO WHAT  
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PAGE 05 STATE 102277

WE COULD TO ASSIST THE UNSYG AND THE PARTIES; THAT WOULD  
CONTINUE TO BE OUR APPROACH. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**TAGS:** PGOV, PEPR, CY, TU  
**To:** NICOSIA  
**Type:** TE  
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